

Abstract

Background: Paranoia could be found in both general population and in psychotic patients. However, the etiology about how it develops is still unclear. This systematic review was conducted to evaluate the relationship between paranoia and one of the possible contributing factors, traumatic experience among non-clinical individuals.

Method: Eligible studies in this review were identified through PsycINFO from 1806 to week 3 of March 2016. Studies measuring trauma experience and paranoia in non-clinical population were included. Risks of bias were assessed for the eligible studies.

Result: There are eleven studies included in this systematic review. Results from the eleven studies shows that there is a relationship between trauma and paranoia. Characteristics of trauma including number of adversities, abusers, and types of trauma may also influence the relationship between trauma and paranoia.

Conclusion: The current review demonstrates the relationship between traumatic experience and paranoia, and examines how the characteristics of trauma experience could affect paranoia. The eleven studies included in the review help present part of the picture of the relationship between paranoia and trauma. It is suggested to conduct more research on this issue among non-clinical individuals in order to generate a better understanding on paranoia.

Keywords: trauma, paranoia